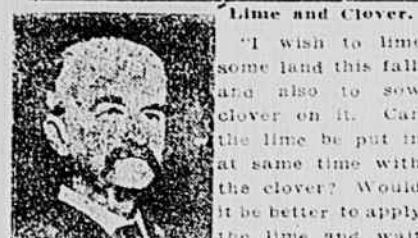


WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY



Lime and Clover.
"I wish to lime some land this fall, and also to sow clover on it. Can the lime be put in at the same time with the clover? Would it be better to apply the lime and wait for transplanting the clover? The land has grown clover before. You do not tell me what is now on the land. If you are plowing the land for the clover it will be best to spread the lime on the plowed land and harrow it in, and then sow the clover. Lime is used for sweetening the soil, so that clover will thrive, since the bacteria that live on clover roots will not thrive in an acid soil. But you say the land has grown clover. If this is so, it would seem that it cannot be very acid. Now, if you are sowing the clover with the intention of plowing it under for corn in the spring, I would not use the lime this fall, but would harrow it in after turning the clover under for corn in the spring. Then it will promote the decomposition and nitrification of the organic matter and will greatly help the corn crop. I always prefer to lime when turning under any organic matter, rather than to apply it in the sowing or planting of a crop without this organic matter. It will then prevent all danger from the rapid fermentation of the vegetable material, and will encourage the nitrifying organisms. Do not get the idea that you are using lime as a manure, but use it because you find that your land needs its sweetening influence. It certainly will when you turn under green vegetation. If you are putting the clover in after corn, then disk the land after cutting the corn and sow the clover, and if the soil is dry, roll it to press the seed into the soil and better insure germination."

Barren Cornstalks.

"What is the cause of barren stalks of corn—that is, stalks that grow thickly and make no ears? A friend sent me two of the largest ears of corn I ever saw. I had a small piece of ground that had been used for hot-beds, but the water rising in the pits, I filled and planted corn there. It made wonderful growth in the rich soil, and grew fifteen feet tall and never made a silk. All were barren plants. Now, in all our fields there is serious loss from these barren plants, and if we can get rid of them it will be invaluable. I have read of pulling off the tassels, but that looks to me like closing the door after the horse has been stolen. Please tell us how to prevent barren stalks."

In order to do anything towards the banishing of barren cornstalks it is necessary to understand the habit of growth in corn. Corn makes its flowers, as many other plants do, putting the staminate or male flowers on one part of the plant and the pistillate, or female flowers on another part. The staminate flowers in corn are what we call the tassels, and as the tassels ripen the fine dust-like grains of living matter we call pollen are formed, and these are blown by the wind and there by the wind and fall on the pistillate part of the pistils, the silks. Now, every grain on an ear has its own pistil, and if each pistil does not get pollen, no grain is formed. But nature provides a wonderful abundance in the cornfield, and the pollen from one plant seldom falls on its own silks, but is blown and carried on those of other plants. Now, a plant appears that makes no pistillate flowers, no silks or ears, but it has tassels and ripens an abundance of pollen, and, of course, tends to breed more plants that fall to make ears. Of course, if we let the tassels remain till ripe it would be like closing the door after the horse is stolen from the barn. But if we remove the tassels from the barren stalks before they appear and before it ripens pollen. By doing this year after year we can eliminate the barren characteristic, for the pollen at least of the barren stalks is done it, and after he has practiced it for years, I have gone through his field in every direction and have failed to find a plant without an ear, and yet I have examined him after where he made no attempt to breed out barren plants, and I have never found a field where there was less than 10 per cent of barren stalks. Now, if the growth was sufficient to make ears, the tassels of corn are, and the barren stalks cut off 10 per cent, a farmer with a thirty-acre field has lost 150 bushels of corn and the loss all over the country from this cause is enormous. My friend, who has bred out the barren stalks, has proved that they are a matter of heredity. I never heard of any bad case as that you mention, but I did once find a field that had grown enough for fifty bushels an acre, and on passing through and counting the barren stalks row after row, and making an average, I estimated that they were 20 per cent, or one-fourth, of the plants were barren, and corn taken from that field and planted would certainly insure this barrenness. The only way to eliminate barren stalks is to prevent any barren stalk from ripening pollen."

Growing Pritzaker Onions.

"I sowed in late February seed of the Pritzaker onion. They came up well, but grew slowly and finally looked as though they were dying. I pulled them the first of July. Was the sun too hot for them and caused the failure? The ground is in my garden and is rich with humus. I have more seed and thought of trying to grow some sets this fall. When should it be done? While we can grow good ripe onions of the New England variety, like the Danvers and Southport globe from sowing in spring, I have found that the Spanish and Italian sorts of onions are better treated in a different way. There are two methods used in the far South and in the Pacific Coast section they sow the seed of the Pritzaker in September, and when the plants are as stout as a lead pencil, transplant them into rows sixteen inches apart and four inches in the rows, and they grow immense onions. I have had specimens of these sent me from the Pecos Valley, in New Mexico, and from the coast of Washington State. I have tried this September sowing here, but with rather poor success. The best way to get the large Italian onions is to sow the seed in a frame under glass sashes in late January. Then these will be ready

for transplanting early in March. I clip the roots and the top slightly, and set them in slight furrows and pack the soil to them, and they will, in a favorable season, make very large onions. The present summer has been very dry here from the extreme dry weather, and no onions have made as good a growth as usual. Your seed ripened into sets rather than large onions, and if these are as large as a common marble you could plant them in September and they will probably make very good green onions, but will be apt to run to seed later."

Second Crop Red Clover.

"In cutting the second crop of red clover, is there any way to prevent its making horses slobber? How shall I prepare this second crop for the holler in order to get the seed? What is the best way to sow clover seed, sow it with the drill and afterwards broadcast, or wait till spring? I know of no way to prevent the second crop of clover from salivating horses. To get the clover ready for the holler you simply let it cure well in the cock. Keep it from the rain by using hay racks on the ends and do not handle it more than can be avoided before holling, or you may shatter seed out. In rare seasons you may be able to get a stand of clover sown with the wheat, but as a rule, it is better to wait till spring, and then select a morning in February or early March, when the land is crusted with frost and sow on the crusted ground and the thawing will cover the seed. A good implement to use then is the Cahoon broadcast sower."

Alfalfa Turning Yellow.

"The leaves of my alfalfa are turning yellow. What is the cause and what the remedy? I grew cowpeas on the land and limed it at the rate of a ton an acre of shell lime, sowed to white clover and alfalfa, and after several times till last August. Then I applied two tons of ground limestone and 500 pounds of 16 per cent acid phosphate on half an acre. I have made two cuttings of nice hay, and it is now in full bloom, six inches high, and turning yellow."

"The correspondent is in Appomattox County, and with a mellow red clay soil should have good success with alfalfa. But it is a very common thing for young crops of alfalfa to turn yellow when really no disease can be detected and it may die out if not cut at once. Mow it off, and it will come out fresh and green. Why it acts in this way I cannot say, but I do know that the mowing is the only thing to do. Then I would give another lighter application of acid phosphate, with some potash. Say, 200 pounds of acid phosphate and twenty pounds of the muriate of potash on the half acre plot. After doing this run a disk harrow over the plot lightly. This will help it greatly."

Seeding for Meadow.

"From Pittsford, N. Y., please give me the necessary preparation for getting a piece of land in order for seeding with hay grasses. Top soil gray, subsoil red. Land now in grass from a heavy dressing of stable manure. Shall I begin the fallow now, as rains will permit, or wait later? Please advise me how to begin, how to plow, what commercial fertilizers to use, how much, and when to apply. I have used such as will mature together for next summer."

While in your section timothy grass may give you a good crop the next season, it would probably soon run out, and in all the Southside section I would prefer other grasses for hay. Good preparation of the soil is important. Plow, harrow and break the land deeply, and then disk and harrow, and in this preparation apply a good dressing, say 500 pounds of 16 per cent acid phosphate, and as the soil is gray it may respond to some potash and about twenty-five pounds of muriate of potash will not be amiss mixed with the acid phosphate. For the present the dressing of stable manure will suffice for the nitrogen, and the turning under of the native grasses. Work these fertilizers into the soil in the harrowing, for they are not going to get away as nitrogen might, for the soil will hold on to phosphoric acid and potash till plant roots call for them. As to the time for sowing, I would wait on the season. If the season is favorable, early sowing will be all right, but as a rule it is better to wait till after the usual dry weather of September and October, and sow about the last of October. But I would sow earlier if the rainfall is favorable. Use plenty of seed to get a thick stand. Sow a mixture of ten pounds of tall meadow fescue (Randall grass in S. W. Va.) and English blue grass in the West), ten pounds of tall meadow oats grass and ten pounds of red top. The first two grasses are early, and the red top will make the aftermath and a good second cutting. In the early spring sow on the grasses about eight or ten pounds of red clover seed. Or, instead of using the red top, you might use the same amount of Italian rye grass and have all early grasses, though the Italian rye grass will not be much more than an annual, but certainly gives a fine cutting the first season. Some years ago I saw in New Jersey a field where the Italian rye grass alone in September and the first cutting of hay the next spring an acre. This, of course, was on strong and highly improved land. But treated as an annual, and sown in the fall, the Italian rye grass certainly gives a good crop of hay. The tall meadow oats grass makes a good growth too, and cattle are very fond of it. Tall meadow fescue has somehow gotten to be called English blue grass in the West, but it does not belong to the botanical family of the blue grass, the Poa genus, and I can see no reason for calling it English blue grass. In Southwest Virginia it is known as Randall grass, probably from the fact that some one who started its growth there. Randall grass too, is a good early grass, but is much better as a pasture grass than as a hay grass. It grows in tussocks, and does not make as heavy a crop as would be thought on the general appearance of the field, and it must be cut as soon as the heads are out, or it depreciates in value rapidly. Therefore, I would prefer to leave it out in a mixture for hay. Then, after the seed of the grasses a top dressing of stable manure is scattered in late winter will greatly improve the crop."

THOUSANDS TOOK SUMMER EXAMS

Twenty Examiners Correcting Papers Submitted by Public School Teachers.

Twenty examiners have been busy for the last two days in the courtroom of the State Corporation Commission examining the papers written by the 5,000 teachers who took the summer examinations conducted by the State Department of Education in every county in the State. In the hope of issuing the certificates in record time after the examinations were taken, Superintendent Stearnes has designated an unusually large corps of examiners, and is expediting the correction work unrelentingly. In spite of this, it is not expected that the certificates will be sent out for three weeks yet.

The summer examinations were given simultaneously by the division of school superintendents in every county, and at the twenty-one summer normal schools in this State. In the fourteen summer normal schools for white teachers there are enrolled 3,627 students, while the seven colored schools muster 229 teacher-scholars. Most of these student-teachers took the examinations and a great many others not enrolled in the normal schools. The examinations were given on all the common school subjects, and teachers in the State employ will be graded during the coming year according to their success with the tests.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction R. C. Stearnes has just returned from a visit to Rockbridge, Roanoke and Buckingham Counties, making inspection of schools and delivering addresses. One of the most interesting schools he saw was that on Irish Creek, Rockbridge County, taught by Miss Sally R. Dickenson, Mary Bouldin and Mary Brown. Seventy children are given instruction in the morning hours and forty adults tutored in the afternoon in that school. For Mr. Stearnes' benefit there was a spelling bee, in which sides were chosen by a mother and her son. The mother proved the best speller, while her mother was one of the last to fall out.

Mr. Stearnes spent Wednesday in Buckingham County, and heard what representative citizens had to say in the interest of the various applicants for the position of division school superintendent for that district.

WHITMAN ACCEPTS PLACE ON TICKET

He Will Run With Fusionists in Effort to Beat Tammany Forces.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
New York, August 7.—District Attorney Charles S. Whitman, in a statement issued this evening, announces his acceptance of the fusion nomination for district attorney, and promises to exert every effort to elect the entire anti-Tammany ticket. Mr. Whitman explains his delay in making his position known by saying that he desired to hear the views of those who had supported him and to let them know his own views of the situation. He declares he has become convinced that support of the fusion ticket affords the best prospect for the defeat of Tammany and the divorce of municipal government from partisanship. "The Republican party," says Mr. Whitman, "best serves itself in supporting the fusion movement, and by so doing it commands the respect of the community."

It was learned to-day that Mayor Gagner is not to be renominated by Tammany. The objections of the Brooklyn organization are said to have brought about this decision. Justice Samuel Seabury and Justice Victor J. Dowling are said to have announced that they will not accept the nomination. Both had been regarded as possibilities.

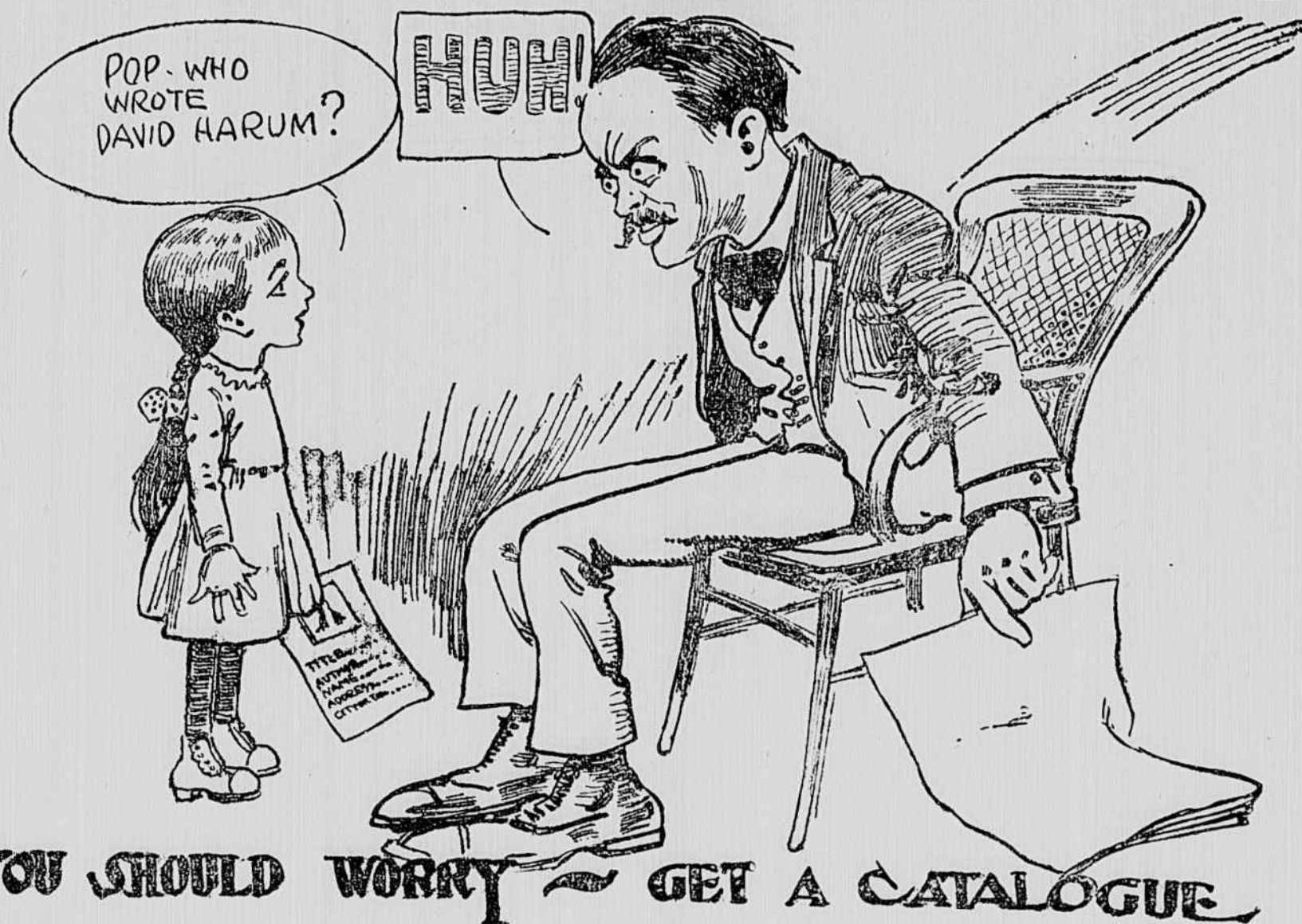
The executive committee of the fusion forces is to meet next Tuesday night to act upon the county and judicial nominations. It was learned to-day that Mayor Gagner is not to be renominated by Tammany. The objections of the Brooklyn organization are said to have brought about this decision. Justice Samuel Seabury and Justice Victor J. Dowling are said to have announced that they will not accept the nomination. Both had been regarded as possibilities.

Mr. Morgan filled a so much greater place in the public eye, however, than Mr. Brady or many others of great wealth that the reports of the Brady fortune being on a par with that of Mr. Morgan have occasioned surprise even in Wall Street, where he was best known.

Mr. Brady's investments lacked the transient factor which made Mr. Morgan's wealth so well known. It is said that he had over \$200,000 in tobacco alone. His holdings of Brooklyn Rapid Transit stock amounted to about \$2,000,000 in round figures. The Tennessee and Georgia power properties he is said to have had investments worth \$10,000,000, and during the last few years he had put between \$2,000,000 and \$2,500,000 in Japanese lighting plants, especially in Tokio.

TANGO LEADS TO ARREST.

Youth Who Could Dance Nothing Else, Gets Into Trouble.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Wilmington, N. C., August 7.—For indulging in the tango and then getting mad and cursing officers at Latham, this big pavilion at Wrightsville Beach, C. C. Supplee, a young man of Philadelphia, was fined in the courts here today for disorderly conduct and resisting an officer. Supplee has been working at a hotel on the beach, and insisted on dancing the tango and turkey trot at Latham, where such dances are prohibited. He was forcibly ejected and arrested. The court held that the management of a public pavilion has a right to prohibit objectionable dances, and Supplee contended that he did not know how to dance anything but the tango, having indulged in it at a hotel where such dances are allowed.



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The catalogue contains all of the 77 correct titles, but ten of the correct titles are marked for you with a star.

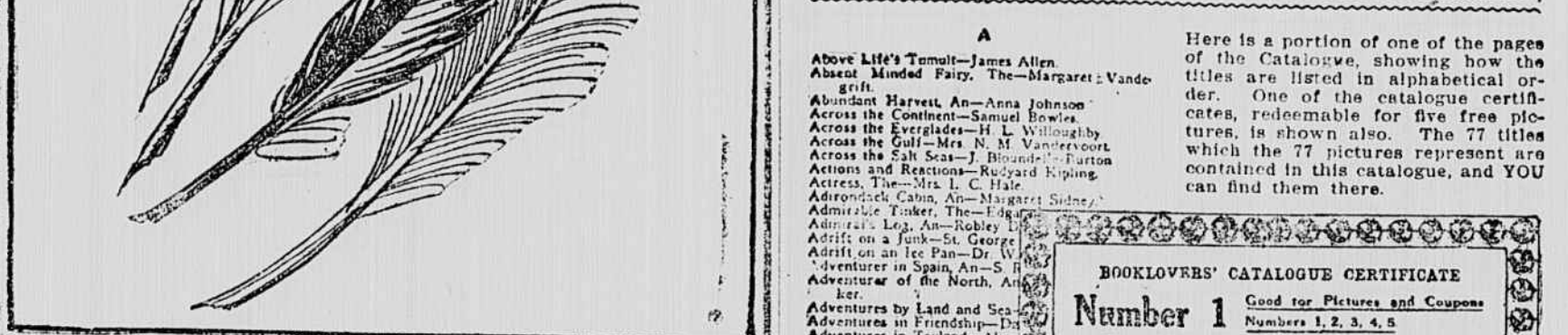
With the Catalogue You Get Pictures Nos. 1 to 35, FREE

Suppose a picture represents a man who is standing in the window of the top floor of a burning building. Well, if you have a catalogue you can easily pick out its title, "In Peril of His Life" or "Facing Death," etc. Use your ingenuity in picking out what sort of titles that picture might represent. Then look in your catalogue to see if such titles are listed there. If you do not find one of your possible titles in the catalogue, then you can be sure that the title is not correct.

For All the Correct Titles Are in the Catalogue

With the catalogue and your own common sense you will have no trouble in solving the 77 pictures, and remember, the catalogue contains ten of the titles marked for you with a star, so you really only have 67 pictures to tell the titles to. Get your catalogue and the free pictures to-day and win your share of those wonderful prizes. You can win, and easily, too.

The Times-Dispatch's Great \$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest
Picture No. 13 Date, August 8th



What Book Does This Picture Represent?
Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title
Author
Your Name
Street and Number
City or Town

TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th. Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out. Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't send in partial lists. Wait until you have all the answers to the 77. Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and coupons of any date that have appeared may be had at 2c. Enter coupons as they appear.

A four-page pamphlet, giving all details of this contest, was printed in this newspaper several days ago. If you did not see it, send a stamp or call at the office.

CONTEST EDITOR'S ::::OFFICIAL:::: Booklovers' Catalogue

Here is a portion of one of the pages of the Catalogue, showing how the titles are listed in alphabetical order. One of the catalogue certificates, redeemable for five free pictures, is shown also. The 77 pictures, which the 77 pictures represent are contained in this catalogue, and YOU can find them there.

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This certificate will be accepted by this newspaper in its contest now being conducted in exchange for the FIVE PICTURES and COUPONS stated above.
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